

Message Text

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54

ACTION EB-11

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: BEXP, ZA

SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: ZAMBIAN RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT

C

EF: STATE 151179

1. ACCORDING MR. M.D. BELANGER (CANADIAN), MANAGER, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT, INDECO LTD., ZAMBIA NOT RPT NOT PRESENTLY CONSIDERING MAJOR PURCHASE RAILCARS. RATHER, GRZ STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF LOCAL MANUFACTURE AND ASSEMBLY OF RAILCARS OF ALL KINDS, INCLUDING BOXCARS, HOPPERS AND FLAT TOPS. INDECO-ASSOCIATED COMPANY WOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR PURPOSE. INITIALLY OUTPUT WOULD BE FOR TANZAM RAILROAD (TAZARA), NOW NEARING COMPLETION.

2. CONCEPT CURRENTLY SUBJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY BEING CONDUCTED BY PRIVATE CONCERN. STUDY WILL BE COMPLETED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, AND FINAL DECISION EXPECTED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

3. BELANGER BELIEVES PROJECT ECONOMICALLY VIABLE AND LIKELY BE APPROVED. ONLY BOGIE WHEEL ASSEMBLIES AND RELATED MECHANISMS REQUIRING PRECISION MACHINING COULD NOT BE MADE IN ZAMBIA AND WOULD HAVE TO BE IMPORTED.

4. IF APPROVED, PROJECT WILL REQUIRE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OF EITHER FOREIGN MANUFACTURER OF RAILROAD EQUIPMENT OR ENGINEERING CONSULTING FIRM WITH RELEVANT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPERTISE. ARRANGEMENT WOULD PROBABLY INVOLVE PAYMENT

OF ENGINEERING FEE FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES PLUS SEPARATE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT. THIS WOULD NOT BE TURN-KEY PROPOSITION SINCE ZAMBIANS EXPECT CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT SEPARATELY.

5. IF FOREIGN RAIL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER INVOLVED, IT WOULD BE OFFERED OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME EXCLUSIVE SUPPLIER BOGIE WHEEL ASSEMBLIES. FIRM WOULD ALSO BE INVITED TAKE EQUITY POSITION IN VENTURE WITH APPROPRIATE GUIDELINES REGARDING REMISSION OF PROFITS NEGOTIATED BEFOREHAND.

6. BELANGER INVITED "LETTERS OF INTEREST" FROM AMERICAN FIRMS, DESCRIBING THEIR GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AND OUTLING DETAILS THEY REQUIRE. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD CONTACT M.J. BELANGER, MANAGER, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT, INDECO LTD., P.O. BOX 1935, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA.
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